

WESTEND-HOTEL  
Bes. J. Hoefen.



Elektr. Licht. Lift.  
Centralheizung.



Bad Wildungen, den 6 Juli 1907.

Dear Professor Goldziter,

I am in receipt of your very kind and long letter of July 1<sup>st</sup>, and I thank you much for the many suggestions it contains. Unfortunately, I can not answer one or two of your questions at this moment, as I am at this watering-place and do not even have with me a copy of the article. There are a number of these documents in Rabbinite and Karaite lands in Cairo. I have copies of three more; one of which I am publishing in the *Harbany* volume, and a second in the *Harper Memorial* volume. This second one refers to the Hadm al-Kanā'is and to the repairing of buildings that have fallen in ruin. I

did not have the time to have more than these  
copied while in Paris; but I had made arrange-  
ments to have a list of them made out and the  
important ones copied. Of course, nothing has been  
done in my absence, and writing is quite unavail-  
able with Egyptians. I shall have to wait until  
1909 when I hope to be again in Egypt on my way to  
Jerusalem, where I am to be Director of our American  
School for one year. In No. Leipzig No 603 there is  
also a copy of Abu Hajar's "Verhandlung mit dem Adel  
d. Dinnunak", which I am having copied for my own  
use. While in Paris, I was able to look over the  
Arabic papyrus fragments in the possession of Edmund  
de Rothschild. I found there a "question" addressed  
to a Shaf'iite on this point. Unfortunately, the answer  
is wanting! But I copied what was there. It may  
interest you to know that I found also some fifteen

pages of Kisat 'Antar in Hebrew Script - some some  
of which is also in Cambridge. This reminds me of  
the Alf Laila in Hebrew Characters published in India.  
I have copied some specimens of this, as it shows how  
much the Egyptian Jews are interested in popular  
Arabian literature.

I have had a long discussion with Cassim on  
in regard to a Shaf'iite Chief Cadi existing at the time  
of the Fatimids. He does not think this to be possible,  
and thinks that the whole document has been rewritten  
at a later time, i.e. after the Fatimids had ceased  
to rule. I can not feel that he is right. It seems to  
me that before the time of Berbers, when Chief Cadis were  
appointed for each of the four "rites", the Chief Cadi  
could be chosen from one of the "rites" - though he may  
have received instruction to "pasha" according to  
Shaf'iite or Hanafi theories. In points of law (not

doctrines, I can not find that the differences between  
the Sunnites and the Shi'ites were important. In the  
article on the al-Nu'man Cadi, I was able to cite  
only one old authority (al-Ibn Khaldun) on these dif-  
ferences - all three referring to matters of the cult. There  
must, I am sure, be other material, of which I  
am at present ignorant. The continuation of al-Kindī's  
history of the Cadi (which I am now preparing for the  
press) says nothing about al-Nu'man being a Shi'ite.  
Abu Hajar speaks of him either as Ismailite or Shaitite.  
But might he not, with all this, still be a Hanafi'ite?

I do not know how else to translate *Da'i al-Di'at*  
than "Chief Preacher". I do not like the word "Chief  
Secretary" or "Chief of the Shi'ite Propaganda". Do you  
know of any term that is better fitted?

I am very much mortified that I did not con-  
sult your article on the "Berliner Kultur" in *Revue*  
1897, and that I forgot that you had translated

the formula of oaths in the R.E.J. Unfortunately,  
the article was overlooked in Cairo. Naples and  
Hildesheim - far from all books of reference and  
from my library. Have you perhaps an extra copy  
of your *Revue* article? It is so hard, even in New  
York, to get sight of articles published in special  
periodicals. Occasionally, you have been kind enough  
to send me some of these articles. Will you not in  
the future, think of me when you have off-prints?

I am delighted to know that you are coming to  
America for the Committee - of which I am a mem-  
ber. I am looking forward with much pleasure  
to receiving you. In New York, your lectures will be  
delivered at the Union Theological Seminary; but  
I hope to make arrangements with you and the  
Committee for an extra lecture at Columbia Uni-  
versity.

Let J. Whitt thank you by cordially for your  
remembrance of her, and return for cordial greet-  
ings.

I am,

Ever faithfully yours

Richard Gottlieb